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**PATENT**

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**FEB 22 2002**

**Technology Center 2100**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

(Attorney Docket No.: 109878.124)

Applicant(s): Ferrari, et al.  
Serial No.: 09/961,131  
Filed: September 21, 2001  
For: SCALABLE HIERARCHICAL DATA-DRIVEN NAVIGATION  
SYSTEM ANDM METHOD FOR INFORMATION RETRIEVAL

Group Art Unit: 2173

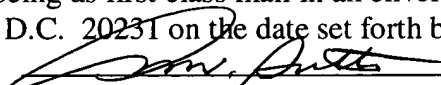
Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date set forth below.

2/11/02  
Date

  
Anthony W. Sutton

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner:

Applicants and their attorney are aware of the following publications and information listed on the attached PTO Form 1449, and in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97 hereby submit these publications for the Examiner's consideration.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b)(3), Applicants hereby make of record the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of all the published U.S. applications listed on Form PTO-1449 are enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that the information above be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and that the publications be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. In this regard, it is requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 with the next Patent Office Communication.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material to patentability or that the listed documents are prior art. If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

09/961,131  
Ferrari, et al.

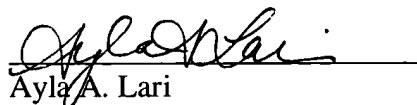
Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits and is therefore submitted as both timely and proper; therefore, no fees are believed to be due.

The Commissioner, however, is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0219. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 2/11/2002



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Subt. Form PTO-1449

Docket Number  
109878.124Application Number  
09/961,131INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant  
Ferrari, et al.Filing Date  
September 21, 2001Group Art Unit  
2773

Sheet 1 OF 1

## U.S. Patent Documents

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUB. DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	US 2001/0044758	Nov. 22, 2001	Talib, et al.	705	27	March 30, 2001
	US 2001/0044837	Nov. 22, 2001	Talib, et al.	709	219	March 30, 2001
	US 2001/0047353	Nov., 29, 2001	Talib, et al.	707	3	March 30, 2001
	US 2001/0049677	Dec. 6, 2001	Talib, et al.	707	3	March 30, 2001
	US 2001/0049674	Dec. 6, 2001	Talib, et al.	707	1	March 30, 2001

## Foreign Patent Documents

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO

Other Documents (Including Author, Title, Date Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609: Draw Line through citation if not conformance and not considered. Include copy with next communication to applicant.

